

Town of Los Gatos Commission, Committee and Board Descriptions

The Town of Los Gatos has a variety of volunteer commissions, boards, and committees whose purpose is to act in an advisory capacity to the Town Council of the Town of Los Gatos. All commission, committee, and board members are appointed by the Town Council.

Architectural Standards Committee

- This subcommittee of the Planning Commission was created to review architectural design policies for the Town of Los Gatos.
- Committee members include three Planning Commissioners and one licensed architect, plus one licensed architect who serves as an alternate. Members are appointed by Council to serve two-year terms.
- Town residency is not required for either architect member, but applicants are asked by Council to demonstrate familiarity with Town planning policies and procedures, and an understanding of the Town General Plan.

Arts Commission

- The Committee is advisory to the Town Council, and works to encourage the development of art, drama, music, and other creative activities in Town.
- Commission members include nine Town of Los Gatos residents appointed by Council to serve three-year terms.

Art Selection Panel

- The Art Selection Panel reviews proposals for public artwork that is loaned, purchased, or commissioned by the Town. Artwork and placement is recommended by the Panel, then reviewed by the Arts Commission and approved by the Town Council.
- The Panel consists of five members: one member of the Arts Commission; one member of the Parks Commission; one artist, who must be a Town of Los Gatos resident; an art professional, who is not required to be a Town of Los Gatos resident; and a resident of the Town of Los Gatos, who represents the community at large. The term for all members is two years.

Building Board of Appeals

- The Building Board of Appeals hears appeals concerning decisions or determinations made by the Town Building Official.
- The Board consists of three community members: two who reside in the Town of Los Gatos, and one member who runs a business or owns property in the Town of Los Gatos. The members are appointed to four-year terms. The Town Building Official is a non-voting member of the Board.
- Experience and training in matters of building construction and building service equipment is required.

Community Services Commission

- The Community Services Commission advises the Town Council on issues concerning the housing and human service needs of residents of all ages. It also maintains collaborative relationships with public and private agencies supporting programs in those fields.
- The Commission consists of nine members. Seven members are over the age of 18, reside in the Town of Los Gatos, and serve three-year terms. Two members are students who have completed ninth grade, reside in the Town of Los Gatos, and attend any accredited high school; or who have completed ninth grade, have a Los Gatos mailing address, and attend an accredited high school in the Town of Los Gatos.
- Members of the Community Services Commission are asked to serve on other commissions as liaisons, and on subcommittees of the Commission.

General Plan Committee

- The General Plan Committee advises the Town Council, Planning Commission, and staff on matters relating to the General Plan and policy documents that implement the General Plan.
- The Committee has nine members: three Planning Commission members; two Town Council members; one Community Services Commission member; and three community members, including one who owns or manages a business in the Town of Los Gatos, and two members who are residents of the Town of Los Gatos. The community members serve four-year terms.

Historic Preservation Committee

- The Historic Preservation Committee advises the Planning Commission, the Development Review Committee, and the Director of Community Development concerning the historic preservation of residential and commercial structures. The Committee may approve minor residential alterations to historic structures as permitted by the Town Code.
- The Committee consists of five members, including two Planning Commission members and three members of the public appointed by the Town Council. Committee members are professional and lay persons with demonstrated interest, competence, or knowledge in historic preservation.

Library Board

- The Library Board makes recommendations to Los Gatos Public Library staff and Town Council regarding Library services and policies.
- The Board consists of five members, appointed by Council for three-year terms. Town residency is required for appointment.

Parks Commission

- The Parks Commission advises Council on matters pertaining to public parks, trails, grounds, street trees, and Town beautification.
- The Commission consists of nine members: seven adults, and two students. Six of the adult members must reside in the Town of Los Gatos; one adult member may reside within the Town of Los Gatos or the City of Monte Sereno. Adult members serve four-year terms. The student members must have completed ninth grade, reside in the Town of Los Gatos, and attend any accredited high school; or have completed ninth grade, have a Los Gatos mailing address, and attend an accredited high school in the Town of Los Gatos.

Personnel Board

- The Personnel Board hears appeals relative to any grievance, disciplinary action, or alleged violation of Town ordinance by a Town employee.
- The Board consists of five members. All members must be residents of the Town of Los Gatos, but may not hold a public office or be employed by the Town.
- All members serve five-year terms.

Planning Commission

- The Planning Commission performs duties and exercises power and authority with regard to planning, subdivisions, zoning, zoning administration, and other land use regulatory controls as prescribed by ordinance and state law.
- The Planning Commission consists of seven residents of the Town of Los Gatos, each serving a four-year term. Applicants are asked by Council to demonstrate a knowledge of the Town Code and its land use and planning policies.
- The Commission has several standing committees, and individual Planning Commissioners also represent the Commission on a number of Council-appointed committees. Committee terms are for one year and are appointed by the Planning Commission Chair.

Rent Advisory Committee

- The Rent Advisory Committee regularly reviews the Town's Rental Dispute Resolution Ordinance and Regulations, and recommends to Town Council changes as needed.
- The committee consists of five voting members: two property owners, two tenants, and one neutral member.
- The property owners must own properties of three or more units located in the Town of Los Gatos. Only one property owner may own or represent a mobile home park.
- Tenant representatives must rent a unit in a residential complex with three or more units, located in the Town of Los Gatos. Only one tenant may reside in a mobile home park.

- The neutral member, who chairs the Committee, must not own any residential investment property in the Town of Los Gatos. He or she must own the home in which he or she resides, and the home must be located in the Town of Los Gatos.
- The term of office for all members is three years.

Transportation and Parking Commission

- The Transportation and Parking Commission reviews and recommends actions to Council related to traffic calming, bikeways, parking, and local traffic issues.
- The Commission consists of seven members; appointed for four-year terms. Town residency is required for appointment.

Youth Commission

- The Youth Commission is responsible for advising the Town Council on issues involving the youth of Los Gatos.
- The Commission consists of fifteen members, who are students entering grades eight through eleven.
- Up to five alternates, grades eight through eleven, may also be appointed to the Commission to serve in the event a member from that grade is no longer able to serve.
- The term of office for all members is two years, beginning in June. Members and alternates must either reside in the Town of Los Gatos, and attend any accredited school; or have a Los Gatos mailing address, and attend a school in the Town of Los Gatos.
- The Youth Commission is supported by the Los Gatos/Monte Sereno Police Department in collaboration with Los Gatos/Saratoga Community Education and Recreation.